

**City Council, Standing Committee and Commission
Conseil, comités permanents et commission**

☐ **Motion**

☐ **Notice of Motion / Avis de motion**

Committee / Commission:

☒ **Council / Conseil**

Report / Agenda: Special City Council Agenda 71

Item / Article:

Re: Police Services Board

Moved by / Motion de: **Councillor S. Moffatt**

Seconded by / Appuyée par: **Councillor L. Dudas**

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) has been the lead agency in charge of dealing with the illegal occupation of the City of Ottawa by the self-described Freedom Convoy 2022, which began on Friday, January 28th, 2022; and

WHEREAS, to date, the OPS has been unable to achieve the effective containment and elimination of the occupiers, who are well-funded and have been allowed to become entrenched rather than dispersed; and

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Services Board is charged with providing the OPS with the resources it needs to perform effective policing; and

WHEREAS it is now widely understood that more resources should have been called for, and sooner, and Chief Peter Sloly has resigned and Interim Chief Steve Bell is now leading the Service; and

WHEREAS the City of Ottawa and the Province of Ontario have declared States of Emergency, and the Government of Canada has invoked the federal Emergencies Act, and the federal and provincial governments have provided significant additional policing resources as well as additional enforcement tools to provide the Ottawa Police Service with all of the levers it needs to end this unlawful, aggressive occupation being significantly funded from foreign sources; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario recently designated Chief Superintendent - Regional Commander, Carson Pardy as their lead in Ottawa and the Government of Canada identified the Deputy Commissioner for Federal Policing, Michael Duheme as the RCMP lead in the integrated command structure; and

WHEREAS Acting Chief Steve Bell has already initiated a strong trilateral relationship with the two other levels of government to move to end the current occupation; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Ottawa Police Service Board has also not been effective to date in their oversight function and, in order to help restore public trust, the Vice-Chair Smallwood has indicated his willingness to resign; and

WHEREAS City Council believes that an interim Ottawa Police Services Board with more experience with emergency operations will allow Interim Chief Bell to focus all of his efforts, and that of his leadership team, on using all the tools and resources at his disposal to take the necessary actions to end the illegal occupation peacefully and finally, while continuing to provide information to the public, the OPS Board and City Council; and

WHEREAS Councillor El-Chantiry has extensive national, provincial and local experience related to Police Services Boards, including as Chair of the Ottawa Police Services Board, Chair of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, and as a member of the Board of the Canadian Association of Police Governance, and there are other Members of Council and former citizen appointees who also have more experience in oversight of the Police during emergency operations, and who are willing to serve again in this capacity, on an interim basis, to help stabilize the Board during emergency operations; and

WHEREAS Councillor Harder served on the Ottawa Police Services Board for seven years and sat on the hiring committee for one chief and two deputy chiefs; and

WHEREAS, following the end of the occupation and emergency operations, there will need to be a review of all of the actions undertaken related to the occupation by the Ottawa Police Service and its Board; and

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Services Board will also need to hire its next Chief, which Council expects will be done following meaningful and constructive consultation with the community and, in particular, with marginalized communities who have been over-policed, and Councillor King will be key to those efforts, given his role as the Council Liaison for Anti-Racism and Ethnocultural Relations Initiatives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council approve replacing current City Council appointees for the Ottawa Police Services Board, as follows, effective immediately:

- 1. Councillor Eli El-Chantiry, in the seat reserved by statute for the Mayor, replacing Councillor Diane Deans, and that Eli El-Chantiry be recommended to the Board to be its Chair;**
- 2. Councillor Jan Harder, replacing Councillor Carol Ann Meehan;**
- 3. Suzanne Valiquet, replacing Sandy Smallwood, who has resigned; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council request that the Executive Director of the Ottawa Police Services Board call a Special Meeting of the Board, in accordance with their Rules of Procedure, to be held no later than 1 p.m. on Thursday, February 17th, 2022, to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk be directed to undertake a circulation of those Members of Council who wish to serve on the Police Services Board for the remainder of the term, to begin the work of consultation on the hiring of the new Chief, including community consultation, and undertaking a review of the actions of the Ottawa Police Services Board and the Ottawa Police Service related to the occupation, and that the Clerk bring forward the results of this circulation as soon as practicable following the end of the current, related States of Emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council thank the departing Members of the Ottawa Police Services Board for their work this term.